

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) N-200

**P1. Other Identifier:** Administration Building, Ames Research Center

**\*P2. Location:** ☒ Not for Publication ☐ Unrestricted

**\*a. County** Santa Clara

**\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad** San Francisco North, Calif. **Date:** 1995

**\*c. Address** 200 Bush Circle

**City** Moffett Field

**Zip** 94035

**\*e. Other Locational Data:**

**\*P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Building N-200 is the first building visible from the main entry gate on Arnold Avenue. Located in the center of Bush Circle, Building N-200 is a two-story office and administration building with a concrete foundation, concrete walls, and a flat roof. The building is approximately 202-ft long by 60-ft wide with 12,120 sq. ft. per floor. The building contains a basement and two above ground floors. The building's massing is simple and is composed of a rectilinear block with an entry projection on the south façade. This projection is divided into three bays and contains stone lettering that reads "AMES RESEARCH CENTER" just below roofline. The entry has concrete steps, a pair of glazed aluminum doors with fixed aluminum windows on either side, and steel sash casement windows at the second level. Concrete panels are located above the first floor doors and windows and are patterned with concentric squares. On the exterior walls, the concrete finish is scored and has a water table at the base. Below the roofline are a set of four speedlines, which wrap around the entire building. The building's fenestration consists of either eight-light or six-light steel sash windows with an operable hopper window in the lower sash or glass block windows. On the north façade is another set of glazed aluminum doors, as well as an exterior elevator, handicap ramp, and concrete canopy, which connects to Building N-201. Fluted concrete planters flank each doorway at the north and south entries. This building appears to be in good condition.

**\*P3b. Resource Attributes:** (list attributes and codes) HP 6 – Office Building

**\*P4. Resources Present:** ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other

P5a. Photo



**P5b. Photo:** (view and date)  
View of south façade (8/12/05)

**\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** 1943

**\*P7. Owner and Address:**  
United States of America as  
represented by National Aeronautics  
and Space Administration (NASA)

**\*P8. Recorded by:**  
Page & Turnbull, Inc.  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

**\*P9. Date Recorded:** 08/12/05

**\*P10. Survey Type:**  
Reconnaissance

**\*P11. Report Citation:**  
Lori Neff, Department of Parks and  
Recreation – Historic Resources  
Inventory "Bldg. N200,  
Administration Building," (1995).

**\*Attachments:** ☐ None ☐ Location Map ☐ Sketch Map ☐ Continuation Sheet ☒ Building, Structure, and Object Record  
☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record  
☐ Artifact Record ☐ Photograph Record ☐ Other (list)

## BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 2

\*NRHP Status Code 2S2

\*Resource Name or # N-200

B1. Historic name: Administration Building

B2. Common name:

B3. Original Use: Administration Building

B4. Present use: Administration Building

\*B5. Architectural Style: Art Moderne

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

1943 - Date of Construction; 1971 - Extensive interior alterations; 1981 - Rooftop equipment and handicap access ramps;

\*B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features:

Significant architectural features include the building's orientation and siting, the scored concrete exterior, and the concrete detailing (cornice speedlines, incised text, window sills, etc.).

B9a. Architect: National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) Engineers

b. Builder:

\*B10. Significance: Theme Post-War Science and Space Exploration Area NASA Ames Research Center  
Period of Significance 1943 - Present Property Type Administration Building Applicable Criteria 1 & 2  
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity)

Building N-200 was one of the earliest buildings on the NASA Ames Research campus. It was designed under the direction of Smith de France, the Ames Research Center's first director, and became the main administration building. It is significant at the national level under National Register Criterion A & B (California Register Criterion 1 & 2) for its use as the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory Administration Building (1942 - 1958) and later as the Ames Research Center Administration Building (1959 - Present). It was originally constructed to house all administrative and office activities at the center, including the offices of the Director and Assistant Director, Center Management offices, Personal, Procurement, and Central Files. Additionally, the building was the original home to several research divisions, the library, and cafeteria. This building is significant in the areas of space exploration and settlement (1943 - Present) and in the areas of science and invention. Additionally, the building is significant for its association with Smith DeFrance, H. Julian Allen, John F. Parsons, and Harry J. Goett. Although the interior has been largely altered and there have been several exterior renovations (such as the addition of an elevation tower and canopy), Building N-200 still retains those qualities, which convey its historical significance. This building possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) (HP6) - Office Building

\*B12. References:

- Lori Neff, *Department of Parks and Recreation - Historic Resources Inventory "Bldg. N200, Administration Building,"* (1995).
- National Register of Historic Places nomination, *Ames Aeronautical Laboratory Administration Building* (n.d.) [information obtained from NASA Ames Research Center staff]

B13. Remarks:

In 1995, Section 110 survey documentation of the NASA Ames Research Center was submitted to the California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Building N-200 is in the process of being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

\*B14. Evaluator: Rich Sucre, Page & Turnbull, Inc.  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*Date of Evaluation: 10/18/2005

(This space reserved for official comments.)

Sketch Map

